

South-West *Build Wisconsin* Regional Workshop Small Group Record

Small Group Double Blue_____ (color)

Facilitator Sharon L. Cuchno_____

Recorder-Reporter Jeff Butteris_____

Top 10 responses to the question: “What can the State do to foster economic growth in your region?”

Priority response #1 (votes: 4) Lower taxes, put more money in hands of taxpayers without shifting burden to local government.

Priority response #2 (votes: 4) Coordinate telecommunication infrastructure improvements.

Priority response #3 (votes: 3) Continue to work on transportation needs and road infrastructure improvements.

Priority response #4 (votes: 3) Ignore state boundary in developing programs.

Priority response #5 (votes: 2) Tax credit for new target groups.

Priority response #6 (votes: 2) Remove job creation criteria from state programs.

Priority response #7 (votes: 2) Funding mechanism for incumbent workers—training employed workers.

Priority response #8 (votes: 2) Overseeing person. Sub agency to see process through.

Priority response #9 (votes: 2) Stop building schools. Decentralization of K-12 economic development education.

Priority response #10 (votes: 2) Get government buildings and employees out of Madison and locate in SW region.

“Actions Necessary to Achieve our Ideas” Exercise

“If we want to accomplish this [priority issue #1], what does “the State” (as defined earlier) have to do now?”

Priority Issue #1 Lower taxes, put more money in the hands of taxpayers without shifting the burden to local governments.

Responses to the question: “If we want to accomplish this [priority issue], what does “the State” (as defined earlier) have to do now?”

- *In depth analysis of where the money goes.
- *Compare with other states. Do we get the bang for the buck?
- *Focus groups/surveys to find out how people feel about spending issues.

Priority Issue #2 Coordinate telecommunication infrastructure improvements.

Responses to the question: “If we want to accomplish this [priority issue], what does “the State” (as defined earlier) have to do now?”

- *Needs analysis—not just current needs, but the future, too. What are business needs and how will they evolve?
- *Coordinate communication between the telecommunication providers and economic development organization.
- *Anytime state puts in new highways, put in lines for telecommunications.
- *Develop telecommunications plan.
- *Some rural counties will need state sponsors encouragement to have telecommunication infrastructure enhanced.
- *State has to get players to the table to say how this needs to happen.

Priority Issue #3 Continue to work on transportation needs and road infrastructure.

Responses to the question: “If we want to accomplish this [priority issue], what does “the State” (as defined earlier) have to do now?”

*Restore transportation funding from the budget that resulted from the formula change.

*Keep transportation needs a high priority and true to Transportation 2020.

Priority Issue #4 Ignore state boundary in developing programs.

Responses to the question: “If we want to accomplish this [priority issue], what does “the State” (as defined earlier) have to do now?”

*Economic development should not stop at state lines.

*Intergovernmental cooperation.